(b) Various measures being taken to improve the availability of power include expediting commissioning of new generating capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reduction of transmission and distribution losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas.

(c) and (d) Kerala has already achieved cent per cent village electrification.

(e) and (f) There is no proposal at present to include Kanayankavayal village in Idukki District under the Urjagram Scheme since the State Nodal Agency had already initiated action for the establishment of an Urjagram in another village in the same District.

**Gas Pipeline from Bombay High to Cochin**

3540. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to lay a gas pipeline from Bombay High to Cochin; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) The proposal for a Southern Gas Grid is being examined by an Inter-Ministerial Group.

**Petroleum Reserves in Bombay High—Cochin Coastal Belt**

3541. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are tremendous petroleum reserves in coastal belt from Bombay High to Cochin; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to tap such a vast belt and the foreign assistance sought in respect of investment and high technology in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) While crude oil is already being produced from the Bombay offshore basin, exploration in the Kerala-Konkan offshore basin has not yielded any success so far.

Twelve blocks in the Kerala-Konkan basin and Four deep water blocks in the Bombay offshore basin are being offered for exploration in the Fourth Round of bidding.

**Increase in passengers capacity on Cochin-Bombay Sector**

3542. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines flights have been extended to some new places and if so, the details thereof?

(b) whether passenger capacity has been increased in some sectors and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the passenger capacity in Cochin-Bombay sector and increase the number of flights to meet the growing need of passengers traffic?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Effective August 1, 1991, Indian Airlines has restored its services to Gwalior, Kanpur and Allahabad.

(b) Yes, Sir. Effective August 1, 1991, Indian Airlines has increased its capacity on Hyderabad-Bombay, Hyderabad-Delhi and Calcutta-Madras sectors by introducing additional A-320 flights and also by replacing B-737 services with A-320 services.

(c) No, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**Dehar-Bhiwani Power Line**

3543. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work to lay 400 K.V. Dehar Bhiwani line had been started under Beas Transmission system stage-II in 1980;

(b) whether delay is on account of resentment by the landowners of Himachal Pradesh;

(c) whether the Government of Punjab